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Newsletter

Number 03

17 February 2017



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Early Thanks

... to those who supported in any way whatsoever with senior camp.

... to those who assisted with junior beach trips and swimming heats

People of the week

... our year 7 and 8 students for your team work on camp and for your determination to achieve your camp goals. The school has had phenomenal feedback from those you encountered on your journey.

Term calendar ... More to follow as dates come to hand!

21 Feb	Senior options programme starts
23 Feb	Yr 7 & 8 PHN Visit re Immunisations
24 Feb	Zone Swimming Sports at Kokopu School
25 Feb	School Country Fair
27/28 Feb	Parent / teacher / student conferences
2 March	Junior swimming sports (years 1 to 3)
3 March	Middle and senior swimming sports (years 4 to 8)
7 March	Interschool Swimming Sports (pp 9.3)
15 March	Year 7 and 8 tennis doubles
23 March	Kids Lit Quiz
24 March	Year 7 and 8 vaccinations
13 April	Final day of term 1

Triadic Conferences (parent / teacher / student interviews)

The above are scheduled for Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 February - **book online via the following website** - www.schoolinterviews.co.nz **and enter the event code of gc2m3** Please note that bookings are allocated on a first in basis and so don't delay.

Parents are encouraged to attend these interviews with their child or to make an alternative appointment if these days do not suit.

Conferences are an opportunity to talk about your child specifically, to see how they have settled, to note any concerns, and to set some targets. This is a chance for you and your child (optional for year 1 children) to be heard and to hear some first impressions of how their year is unfolding.

Learning Support Interviews .. book online

Mrs Comrie and Mrs Williams will be available on Tuesday (28.2) from 3:30 to 5:30 to meet with parents of students who have been placed on learning support programmes. Mrs Comrie would also be more than willing to meet with parents of students who were placed in learning support programmes in the latter half of 2016. Mrs Comrie and Mrs Williams will be located in the meeting room (main office area).

Interviews ... parents can help by ..

.. noting down any questions beforehand and bringing these with you
.. arriving on time and departing on the bell (teachers want to seem rude but, for everyone's sake we ALL need to keep to time).

.. making a follow-up appointment to discuss issues which may take

Early Buses – early notice that buses will run 30 minutes early on 27 and 28 February because of parent interviews. Parents who transport their children by car are asked to pick them up at 2.30pm please on these days.

Items in last week's newsletter (Please access via our website)

Cellphone policy

School homework policy

National Standards Results

Parent Helpers

Communication with school

Info on Cambridge Programme

Country Fair – Saturday 25 February 2017

***Please support the Country Fair to be held here
at Matarau School on 10-2pm Saturday 25 February.***

Plenty of fun activities are planned, games, competitions, stalls, food etc

***Please let extended family and neighbours know
that this is an event they shouldn't miss!***

Can you help our intrepid gala team in any of the following ways ?

- if able to help with the erection of tents on the Friday before, and dismantling on the Saturday afternoon, please contact Kevin
- If you can help in anyway on Friday 24th with sorting of items for the White Elephant, Clothing or Book stalls please contact Jenny or Helen via the office.

PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING TEACHERS DIRECTLY .. OR VIA THE OFFICE EMAIL ... ALL OFFERS VERY GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

- our juniors (rooms 1 and 2) would be so grateful for the donation of any non-perishable food items for hampers. So please please reach a little deeper into the pantry and see if there is something you can send along to school ... (to be dropped to rooms 1 or 2 or the office please)
- Room 4 (Miss Bevin) would love offers of any good quality clothes and offers to help with sorting, pricing and setting up of items on Friday 24th.
- Room 11 (Miss Blundell) would love offers of help with their café / bake sale
- Room 10 (Mrs Gunson) would love to hear from people able to help with supervision at the water slide
- Room 6 (Mrs Marvin) would love donations of good quality books for their book stall .. please drop these to room 6
- Room 8 (Mrs Lunn) is keen for offers from parents able to supervise in the swimming pool area.
- Room 3 (Mrs Burgin) - would like plants/seedlings & any other outdoor/garden items. Bring to Rm3 next week & they will look after them until the Fair.
- Mrs Robertson is sending home a cake box today (Yr 7&8 to come home Monday) to each family to fill with home baking to sell from the Staffroom. Instructions are attached to each box

... and if you are willing to help out wherever needed please email the school attention Jenny Wiegersma. Thank you so much in advance.

Country Fair .. some useful info

... to reduce the handling of cash, books of tickets will be on sale for rides, food, raffles etc which can then be redeemed at each stall/ticket office.

... eftpos machines will be available for purchase of tickets

... bring plenty of change, and friends and relatives, as there really will be a lot of fun activities, food to eat and things to buy

Senior School Raffle Winners

\$100 Red Pizzeria Voucher - Tracey Currin

Gourmet Basket - Edith Rotgans

\$50 Countdown Voucher - Sharon Smith

\$50 MTA Voucher - Chelsea Peita

International Schools English and Maths Competitions

Consent forms for the above competitions will be sent out shortly. Please give careful thought regarding your child's participation this year. The competition is open to all comers but there is little point in participating if children are unlikely to complete a MINIMUM of 5 practice tests in the period building up to the test. In some years a significant number of children did few or no practice tests, in spite of being issued with these at school and results reflected this. So .. keen to see as many children as possible on-board for these - but only if there is a commitment to do the practice tests.

Learning Support Programmes

If your child has been selected for placement in a Learning Support Programme with either Mrs Comrie or Mrs Williams please ensure that their consent form has been signed and returned to school. These programmes anticipate a high level of support from home. They are expensive to run, and of short duration, and so please support with assigned homework (which will be regular) and by talking with your child about what they have been learning. Mrs Comrie and Mrs Williams will be more than happy to answer questions at any time and are happy to have parents sit in on sessions.

School gates

The school gates help us to keep children safe. If you are entering, or exiting, the school grounds during school hours it is important to ensure you close these gates after you. If you are dropping a child at school after first or before final bell, please be aware that they may not be tall enough to open these gates on their own.

Zone Swimming Sports - Kokopu School - 24 February

Consents for this event (years 4 to 8) are to be sent home Monday. Please return consents this coming Tuesday so that we can confirm entries and bus transport asap. **If you do not receive a consent, and you would like your child to participate in this event (and you can put a good case), please contact Katie or Simon next week.** - Please note that students have been selected on the basis of times achieved in qualifying heats here a school. Any questions to Simon please.

Zone Swimming Sports .. what to bring?

Parents are asked to ensure please that children bring their lunches, plenty to drink, sunhats (and sun safe clothing), sunblock, something warm to wear between races, and spending money at your discretion. Please ensure that children who travel by bus also return to school by bus - unless otherwise arranged with the attending teachers. If weather is doubtful on the morning please check our phone bulletin board for updates. (Children who qualify at the zone event will be invited to participate in the Interschool Swimming Championships - more to follow on this).

School Swimming Sports

Our school swimming sports are scheduled for

... *Junior Swimming Sports* ... 2 March ... in the afternoon. ... *Senior Swimming Sports* ... 3 March ... from mid-morning. (times for both events to be confirmed next week)

Lunches

Our students bring amazing (and very healthy) lunches to school. As you know we do supervise them to make sure they eat a good portion of what you have sent along. Having said this, we do not require children to finish every item in their lunchbox. If you have checked their lunchbox and would like them to eat a little more, just let us know and we will do our best. We try to ensure that packaged treats are left until last but this can be a bit of a mission sometimes.

Have Fun Learning/Practising Te Reo

As in 2016, most classes will be visited weekly by our Te Reo teacher to deepen their experiences in waiata (song), te reo (Maori language) and tikanga (customs). The teacher is loads of fun and the lessons are filled with practical and fun activities. These lessons have got off to a great start, the kids are buzzing, and so please take the time to ask what they are learning. Lessons are of approximately 30 minutes duration and will run for the first half of this year.

Yr 7 & Y8 Immunisation Talk - 2.30pm 23/2/17

The Public Health Nurse will do a short (approx. 15 mins per year group) education session on the immunisations that are available for your year 7 and 8 students, on Thursday 23 February. Please let Helen in the office know if you will be attending.

Homework

If you do NOT want your child to receive home learning please advise their teacher NEXT week. If you are on board please set a regular time and place and advise us if we can help with any "speed wobbles" along the way. Let's start as we mean to continue by getting routines well established.

(Although the research is a little inconclusive we believe that regular home learning routines lead to better performance and a better preparation for secondary school for most children).

School Sponsors sought for 2017

Interested parties are invited to express an interest in becoming a school sponsor. Our sponsors provide an important link between the school and its community. While grateful for the financial contributions of sponsors our desire to foster an on-going and mutually beneficial relationship between the school and your business is our paramount consideration.

Where relevant, a sponsor will be given the opportunity to quote on school work through the Ministry of Education. This is just one of the benefits of being a sponsor.

If you are interested in becoming a school sponsor, please contact Mary Finlayson 4370441 or 0274525398.

Term Headlice Inspection

The headlice inspection will be held next week on Tuesday 21st February. If you are able to help with inspections, please phone Helen here at school on Monday. - Without offers of help we will not be able to continue this service.

Newsletter

Please advise if you do not receive your newsletter via email and we will set this up. We will also continue to use our Matarau School facebook page to keep you informed.

After School Care

The board has been approached to see if an ASC programme might be viable. Please take the time to complete a very brief survey which can be found via the following link ...

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HCTXMF6> We have extended the closing date of this survey to 20 February.

Finally

We live in a world of rapid change, and education is no different. Each year staff are expected to undertake professional development to expose them to new ideas, to give them opportunities to grow their practice, to reflect on their teaching, and to interact with exceptional practitioners elsewhere. The board acknowledges the importance of professional development, and is active in supporting these efforts. Currently three (possibly 4) Masters degrees are underway (including one through a U.S. University), a staff member has enrolled in a course through San Francisco University focussed on supporting dyslexic learners, and a host of other courses have been booked. We are grateful to staff for their keenness to grow their skills and know that the students will ultimately be the beneficiaries of this.

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

**Earle Tito
Engineering
Ltd**

Community Notices

Northland Futsal Academy, Aged 8-15 yrs, boys & Girls, Held at WBHS or KHS Contact Christian, 021 246 7328 for days / times / cost.

AgriKids – Northern Region Final. Kamo High School, 18 March 2017. Enter a team for a fun day. Must be 8+ years old. Contact Chevon Horsford on 021 0235 7844 or checkout agrikidsnz.co.nz

WANTED HOUSE TO RENT in Matarau / Ruatangata area for professional couple with 1 intermediate aged child. Please phone 0204 137 6787

HIKURANGI JUNIOR RUGBY Registration Day – This Sunday 19 February 10am- 12pm. At the Hikurangi Clubrooms, sign up to play rugby this season. Subs this year \$40 including pair socks. If you can't make it or any questions contact Kasey Hindrup on 021 542 426.

Found – Black Cat, Near Otakairangi end of Matarau Road. Might have been missing for several weeks? Very friendly. Ph Anita on 433 5946 or 021 0297 9520

School Lunches



Mondays - \$3.00 : Baked Beans or Spaghetti served with toast & a juice, or Chicken or Beef Cup of Noodles & a juice. Order at the office by morning tea on Monday.

Wednesdays - \$1.50 : for Sausage (meat or vegetarian option) in bread with sauce. Order on Wednesday mornings through the classroom teacher.

Fridays - \$4.00 : Hot Mince Pie, Jumbo Sausage Roll or Sausage Roll (with Museli Bar) and a Fruit Drink. You can swap the Fruit drink for a Flavoured Milk for \$5.00. Order by Wednesday at the office, to receive Friday. See order form attached to this week's newsletter if you want to bulk order for term 4.

Matarau School Country Fair Saturday 25th February 2017

Please bring any good quality items for
White Elephant, Plants, Clothing
or Book Stalls to the Hall

and all donations for the Silent Auctions
or the Raffles to the office

Please be note we cannot sell e-waste, cots, car seats etc, please don't donate these types of items. Any queries on suitability of items please contact Jenny on 021 729 536

10-AM - 2-PM

MATARAU SCHOOL *Country Fair*



Kids Games
SATURDAY Stalls Digger Rides
25TH FEBRUARY Raffles Fun
EFTPOS AVAILABLE
Cake Sale
Spit Roast Sausage Sizzle
Waterslide White Elephant Stall
Pony Rides Polaris bike rides
Book, Clothing & Plant Stalls

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